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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Ulysses Williams, Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

SEPTEMBER 1983

RELEASE DATE:
October 20, 1983

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 1983				REVISED AUGUST 1983				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1982			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,919.4	1,697.7	221.7	11.6	1,909.4	1,676.3	233.1	12.2	1,886.6	1,676.0	210.6	11.2
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	78.1	69.7	8.4	10.8	76.6	67.7	8.9	11.7	75.7	66.7	9.0	11.9
Baton Rouge 2/	239.6	216.7	22.9	9.6	237.0	212.2	24.8	10.5	231.9	208.6	23.3	10.0
Lafayette 3/	101.3	92.8	8.5	8.4	101.8	93.0	8.8	8.7	100.9	94.9	6.0	5.9
Lake Charles 4/	77.2	65.2	12.0	15.5	76.7	64.9	11.8	15.3	76.5	65.3	11.2	14.7
Monroe 5/	58.4	51.9	6.5	11.1	58.4	51.8	6.6	11.3	58.6	51.7	6.9	11.7
New Orleans 6/	518.6	464.0	54.6	10.5	523.1	465.7	57.4	11.0	514.0	461.8	52.2	10.2
Shreveport 7/	169.8	151.0	18.8	11.0	167.4	148.1	19.3	11.5	166.8	149.5	17.3	10.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during September stood at 1,585,900, an increase of 12,700 workers from last month's figure, but 20,300 fewer than September of last year. An increase in the state's manufacturing payrolls was spearheaded by a seasonal upturn in the fruit and vegetable canning industry. Nonmanufacturing employment rose above the previous level as a result of seasonal upturns in public and private schools, the settlement of a labor dispute in the communications industry, and increased hiring at certain retail trade establishments.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Durable goods employment for September, at 89,500, was 300 below last month and 5,500 lower than the same month a year ago. Less demand for concrete, gypsum and plaster products accounted for the decrease in stone, clay and glass products payrolls. Upturns in the manufacture of fabricated structural metal products and certain miscellaneous fabricated metal products were responsible for the increase in fabricated metal products employment. Employment in the electric and electronic equipment industry was lower as the demand for electric lighting and wiring equipment and various miscellaneous electrical equipment and supplies weakened somewhat. Transportation equipment payrolls were down due to less business for the state's shipyards.

Total nondurable goods employment for September, at 103,000, was 1,100 above August's level, but it was 3,600 lower than September a year ago. The main force in this month's increase of nondurable goods employment was a seasonal advance in food and kindred products due to increased activity in vegetable canning. A dropoff in the production of industrial organic chemicals was one of the various reasons for the decrease in chemicals and allied products employment. Employment in apparel and other textile products and in paper and allied products edged up slightly from last month. Other nondurable goods payrolls were down from the August level.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries for the current month was 11,900 higher than last month's level but 11,200 below the comparable period a year earlier. Low demand for crude petroleum and natural gas led to decreases in oil and gas extraction employment for September. Construction moved down due in large part to payroll cutbacks in heavy construction, general building construction, electrical work, and certain miscellaneous trades. Transportation and public utilities employment was up sharply from the August figure mainly as a result of the settlement of a labor dispute in the communication industry. More business for food stores and for eating and drinking establishments resulted in higher trade employment for September. Banking was among the many segments of finance, insurance and real estate that lost employment in September. Gains in services for September were due largely to seasonal employment increases in educational services. The largest increase in nonmanufacturing employment for the current month occurred in government as a result of the opening of state and local schools.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 136,000 production workers in manufacturing increased from $391.25 in August to $407.95 in September, an increase of $16.70 and an increase of $16.31 above September of last year. Average hourly earnings were seven cents higher in September than last month and $0.28 more than September of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.0 for the current month, an increase of 1.4 hours from last month's average of 39.6 hours.

Estimated total unemployment during September amounted to 221,700, a decrease of 11,400 below the August level of 233,100, but it was 11,100 higher than September of last year. The unemployment rate for September was 11.6 percent, a decrease of 0.6 percentage points below last month's rate, but 0.4 percentage points higher than September of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for September was 8.8 percent compared to 9.2 percent in August and 9.7 percent in September of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force increased from 1,909,400 in August to 1,919,400 in September, an increase of 10,000. Total employment, at 1,697,700, was up by 21,400 from last month and 21,700 higher than September a year ago.

Louisiana's unemployment rate is expected to go down during the next two to three months as the usual fall seasonal upturn begins. Trade will probably begin to add workers in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. Educational services, both private and public, will likely show additional growth next month as a result of the new school term. On the other hand, construction worker totals may slip in response to severe weather during the winter months. Manufacturing employment may fall slightly.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change from Aug. 1983	Net Change from Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,585.9	1,573.2	1,606.2	+12.7	-20.3
MINING AND QUARRYING	90.5	91.1	96.1	- 0.6	- 5.6
Oil and Gas Extraction	87.2	87.8	92.5	- 0.6	- 5.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.3	3.3	3.6	0	- 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	114.6	115.2	122.1	- 0.6	- 7.5
MANUFACTURING	192.5	191.7	201.6	+ 0.8	- 9.1
Durable Goods	89.5	89.8	95.0	- 0.3	- 5.5
Lumber and Wood Products	13.4	13.4	12.8	0	+ 0.6
Furniture and Fixtures	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.9	8.1	7.6	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.5	5.1	0	- 1.6
Fabricated Metal Products	16.0	15.8	17.2	+ 0.2	- 1.2
Machinery, Except Electrical	12.0	12.0	13.8	0	- 1.8
Electric & Electronic Equipment	8.4	8.3	9.8	+ 0.1	- 1.4
Transportation Equipment	25.4	25.8	25.6	- 0.4	- 0.2
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	103.0	101.9	106.6	+ 1.1	- 3.6
Food & Kindred Products	25.6	24.4	25.7	+ 1.2	- 0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.5	8.4	8.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Paper & Allied Products	11.8	11.7	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.7	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	30.5	30.7	33.3	- 0.2	- 2.8
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.8	12.8	13.2	0	- 0.4
Petroleum Refining	12.1	12.2	12.4	- 0.1	- 0.3
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.0	4.1	4.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	123.9	119.1	128.5	+ 4.8	- 4.6
Railroad Transportation	7.9	7.9	8.5	0	- 0.6
Transportation, ex. Railroads	75.9	76.2	77.6	- 0.3	- 1.7
Communications & Public Utilities	40.1	35.0	42.4	+ 5.1	- 2.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	367.4	366.9	369.0	+ 0.5	- 1.6
Wholesale Trade	99.5	99.7	101.5	- 0.2	- 2.0
Retail Trade	267.9	267.2	267.5	+ 0.7	+ 0.4
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	58.9	59.2	59.2	- 0.3	- 0.3
Food Stores	47.2	46.8	48.5	+ 0.4	- 1.3
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.0	30.9	30.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	81.5	81.0	79.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.3
Other Retail Trade	49.3	49.3	49.8	0	- 0.5
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	80.2	80.5	79.5	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Banking	26.0	26.1	26.0	- 0.1	0
SERVICES	307.6	306.3	304.7	+ 1.3	+ 2.9
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	20.9	21.0	21.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Other Services	286.7	285.3	283.6	+ 1.4	+ 3.1
GOVERNMENT	309.2	302.4	304.7	+ 6.8	+ 4.6
Federal	34.1	34.0	33.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
State and Local	275.1	268.4	271.3	+ 6.7	+ 3.8
State	98.9	94.9	100.8	+ 4.0	- 1.9
Local	176.2	173.5	170.5	+ 2.7	+ 5.7

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$407.95	$391.25	$391.64	41.0	39.6	40.5	$9.95	$9.88	$9.67
Durable Goods	360.24	353.19	357.75	39.5	39.2	39.4	9.12	9.01	9.08
Lumber & Wood Products	282.35	281.30	257.18	39.6	39.9	37.6	7.13	7.05	6.84
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	368.03	355.45	368.68	42.4	43.4	39.6	8.68	8.19	9.31
Fabricated Metal Products	401.99	394.67	390.93	41.7	39.3	41.5	9.64	9.51	9.42
Machinery, ex. Electrical	362.61	366.52	337.75	39.5	39.2	36.2	9.18	9.35	9.33
Electric & Electronic Equip.	394.35	381.02	406.42	38.7	38.8	40.2	10.19	9.82	10.11
Transportation Equipment	380.98	375.44	355.70	38.6	38.0	37.8	9.87	9.88	9.41
Nondurable Goods	455.38	430.67	426.59	42.4	40.1	41.7	10.74	10.74	10.23
Food & Kindred Products	240.22	238.74	236.48	35.8	34.6	37.3	6.71	6.90	6.34
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	176.36	171.69	153.89	42.6	37.9	33.6	4.14	4.53	4.58
Paper & Allied Products	577.54	559.24	533.25	45.8	44.0	45.0	12.61	12.71	11.85
Printing & Publishing	354.31	312.84	315.75	39.9	36.0	37.5	8.88	8.69	8.42
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	634.04	596.77	595.82	44.0	41.5	41.9	14.41	14.38	14.22
Petroleum & Coal Products	730.36	640.19	601.54	50.3	46.9	48.2	14.52	13.65	12.48
Petroleum Refining	753.94	654.72	616.96	50.6	46.9	48.2	14.90	13.96	12.80
MINING	518.41	496.58	451.78	47.3	45.6	42.5	10.96	10.89	10.63
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	378.65	398.65	452.53	31.9	33.5	39.8	11.87	11.90	11.38
BANKING	219.48	220.66	220.56	37.2	37.4	38.9	5.90	5.90	5.67

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 136,000 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 112,200 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 1983				REVISED AUGUST 1983			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	25,000	21,600	3,400	13.6	24,725	21,125	3,600	14.5
Oakdale (Allen)	6,450	4,950	1,500	23.4	6,350	4,775	1,575	24.8
Napoleonville (Assumption)	11,450	9,850	1,600	14.0	11,350	9,775	1,575	14.5
DeRidder (Beauregard)	11,300	9,700	1,600	14.1	11,000	9,375	1,625	14.8
Arcadia (Bienville)	6,975	6,225	750	10.8	6,975	6,150	825	11.8
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,675	4,075	600	13.0	4,575	3,925	650	14.1
Cameron (Cameron)	5,025	4,575	450	9.1	4,925	4,450	475	9.6
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,950	6,250	700	10.2	6,800	6,025	775	11.4
Homer (Claiborne)	7,400	6,675	725	9.7	7,300	6,550	750	10.3
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,150	7,875	1,275	13.9	9,125	7,675	1,450	15.9
Mansfield (DeSoto)	10,925	9,700	1,225	11.2	11,025	9,625	1,400	12.6
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	4,825	4,150	675	13.9	4,625	3,850	775	16.8
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,625	6,875	750	9.8	7,600	6,775	825	10.8
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,375	12,125	2,250	15.6	14,125	11,700	2,425	17.2
Winnsboro (Franklin)	9,800	8,250	1,550	15.9	9,600	7,900	1,700	17.6
New Iberia (Iberia)	40,350	34,725	5,625	13.9	40,500	34,600	5,900	14.6
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,925	13,950	1,975	12.5	15,825	13,750	2,075	13.1
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,300	5,700	600	9.5	6,225	5,600	625	10.2
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	14,500	12,025	2,475	17.1	14,125	11,650	2,475	17.5
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	40,950	36,325	4,625	11.3	40,400	35,600	4,800	11.9
Jena (LaSalle)	5,875	5,250	625	10.7	5,850	5,200	650	11.1
Ruston (Lincoln)	20,575	19,500	1,075	5.2	19,800	18,650	1,150	5.8
Tallulah (Madison)	5,450	4,850	600	11.5	5,150	4,425	725	14.2
Bastrop (Morehouse)	12,950	11,300	1,650	12.7	12,600	10,825	1,775	14.0
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	16,600	14,950	1,650	10.0	16,275	14,550	1,725	10.6
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,825	13,725	1,100	7.5	14,925	13,725	1,200	8.0
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	12,900	11,400	1,500	11.6	13,075	11,400	1,675	12.8
Coushatta (Red River)	4,100	3,650	450	10.8	3,975	3,525	450	11.5
Rayville (Richland)	7,875	6,775	1,100	14.1	7,700	6,450	1,250	16.3
Many (Sabine)	7,725	6,775	950	12.4	7,650	6,625	1,025	13.3
Norco (St. Charles)	24,000	21,650	2,350	9.8	23,675	21,200	2,475	10.4
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,075	3,650	425	10.4	3,950	3,475	475	11.8
Lutcher (St. James)	8,475	7,300	1,175	13.9	8,350	7,100	1,250	15.1
Reserve (St. John)	17,675	15,325	2,350	13.3	17,575	15,150	2,425	13.8
Opelousas (St. Landry)	36,550	29,775	6,775	18.6	36,350	29,100	7,250	19.9
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	20,000	17,000	3,000	15.0	19,800	16,675	3,125	15.8
Morgan City (St. Mary)	36,025	30,500	5,525	15.3	35,725	30,000	5,725	16.0
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	34,575	28,675	5,900	17.1	33,800	27,400	6,400	18.9
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,250	2,900	350	10.8	3,050	2,650	400	13.2
Houma (Terrebonne)	50,175	43,475	6,700	13.4	50,400	43,250	7,150	14.2
Farmerville (Union)	7,300	6,400	900	12.4	7,125	6,225	900	12.7
Abbeville (Vermilion)	26,000	22,900	3,100	12.0	25,575	22,275	3,300	12.9
Leesville (Vernon)	11,300	9,600	1,700	15.0	11,100	9,350	1,750	15.8
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,875	12,200	2,675	18.1	14,725	11,900	2,825	19.2
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,450	3,600	850	18.9	4,325	3,450	875	20.4
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,300	3,000	300	9.2	3,225	2,900	325	9.9
Winnfield (Winn)	5,550	4,675	875	15.9	5,475	4,550	925	16.8

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	55.5	54.1	54.4	+ 1.4	+ 1.1
MANUFACTURING	5.8	5.3	5.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.1	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	2.8	2.3	2.6	+ 0.5	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	0.6	0.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.7	1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	49.7	48.8	48.7	+ 0.9	+ 1.0
Construction	3.8	3.7	3.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.6	12.6	12.1	0	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Retail Trade	9.8	9.8	9.3	0	+ 0.5
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	1.7	0	+ 0.3
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.1	4.1	3.9	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0
Services & Mining	11.8	11.6	11.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.3	5.3	5.1	0	+ 0.2
Other Services & Mining	6.5	6.3	6.5	+ 0.2	0
Government	16.0	15.4	15.9	+ 0.6	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0
Local	7.4	6.8	7.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.1

(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data alsc includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Alexandria labor market area increased in September to 55,500. This was a gain of 1,400 over the previous month and an increase of 1,100 from this month a year ago. This months gains were in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing.

Manufacturing employment is up 500 from last month. The increase was in nondurable goods with 400 in food and kindred products and 100 in other nondurable goods. Overall manufacturing has increased 100 as compared to this period last year with the increase being in nondurable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing is up 900 since last month and is estimated at 49,700. The major increases were in other services and mining, and local government, which was brought about by the openings of the public, parochial and private schools. As compared to this month a year ago, nonmanufacturing employment has increased 1,000 with increases noted in the segments of construction, retail trade and health services.

Total employment should remain fairly constant during the next thirty days with a slight decrease in the unemployment rate.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	209.6	204.7	207.1	+ 4.9	+ 2.5
MANUFACTURING	24.3	24.4	25.2	- 0.1	- 0.9
Durable Goods	4.6	4.7	4.9	- 0.1	- 0.3
Lumber and Wood Products	0.3	0.3	0.4	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.1	0.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	2.2	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	19.7	19.7	20.3	0	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	2.6	2.5	2.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.9	14.0	14.9	- 0.1	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	185.3	180.3	181.9	+ 5.0	+ 3.4
Mining	1.4	1.5	1.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	21.8	21.5	20.8	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
Transportation and Public Utilities	10.0	9.2	10.4	+ 0.8	- 0.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	48.1	47.7	46.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.4
Wholesale Trade	11.6	11.6	11.6	0	0
Retail Trade	36.5	36.1	35.1	+ 0.4	+ 1.4
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.0	12.1	12.0	- 0.1	0
Services	38.5	38.3	37.5	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
Government	53.5	50.0	53.0	+ 3.5	+ 0.5

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$490.06	$483.11	$457.02	42.8	41.9	39.5	$11.45	$11.53	$11.57
Petro-Chemicals	632.34	626.94	626.06	43.7	43.0	46.0	14.47	14.58	13.61

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 15,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 209,600 during September, up 4,900 from August's revised estimate of 204,700 and up 2,500 over the total for last September. Manufacturing employment was down 100 during the current period while nonmanufacturing increased 5,000.

Employment in manufacturing industries totaled 24,300 in September, down 100 from the August revised estimate of 24,400. Durable goods lost 100 due to less activity in concrete, gypsum, and plastic products. Nondurable goods had no change; however, food and kindred products were seasonally up 100 while chemicals and petroleum products were down 100 due to less business in industrial organic chemicals.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 185,300 was up 5,000 during the current period. Mining employment declined due to lower production of crude petroleum and natural gas. Gains in construction were due to increased activity in heavy construction and in special trade contractors. Settlement of a labor dispute in the communication industry helped the transportation and public utilities return to a normal level. Wholesale trade had no change while retail trade employment improved due to more business in eating and drinking places and in miscellaneous shopping goods stores. Finance, insurance, and real estate was down due in part to employment reductions in commercial and stock savings banks. Services employment increased due to seasonal activities in educational institutions. Government had a large increase during the current period due to the opening of public schools for the fall semester.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 216,700 during September, an increase of 4,500 from August's revised estimate of 212,200. Unemployment was estimated at 22,900 in September, down 1,900 from the revised August estimate and down 400 from last September. September's unemployment rate dropped to 9.6 percent from the August revised rate of 10.5 percent. The rate stood at 10.0 percent last September. The local civilian labor force totaled 239,600 during September, up 2,600 from August and up 7,700 over September of last year.

Average weekly earnings of the Baton Rouge Area's 15,600 production workers in all manufacturing was $490.06 in September, up $6.95 from August's revised average. Average weekly hours at 42.8 were up 0.9 hour and average hourly earnings were down eight cents. More overtime by lower paid employees contributed to these changes.

An announced lay off will affect manufacturing employment during the coming months; however, the approaching holiday season employment should help total non-ag employment to improve.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 3,182 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 450 applicants in jobs during September.

The consumer price index for August, 1983 for all urban consumers was 300.3 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 299.5 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	94.6	93.9	99.2	+ 0.7	- 4.6
MANUFACTURING	5.0	5.0	5.2	0	- 0.2
Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	3.2	0	- 0.4
Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.0	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	89.6	88.9	94.0	+ 0.7	- 4.4
Mining	16.8	16.9	19.7	- 0.1	- 2.9
Construction	6.1	6.2	6.8	- 0.1	- 0.7
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	7.5	7.5	7.8	0	- 0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.8	23.9	24.7	- 0.1	- 0.9
Wholesale Trade	7.6	7.6	7.7	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	16.2	16.3	17.0	- 0.1	- 0.8
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.8	2.9	2.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Food Stores	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Other Retail Trade	9.6	9.6	10.2	0	- 0.6
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
Services	20.4	20.9	20.8	- 0.5	- 0.4
Government	11.2	9.7	10.5	+ 1.5	+ 0.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during September stood at 94,600, an increase of 700 over August, but 4,600 below the comparable figure a year ago. The increase was centered in the government segment of nonmanufacturing due mostly to the seasonal hiring for the new school term.

Monthly employment for nonmanufacturing at 89,600 was higher than the August level of 88,900 and 4,400 lower than the same period of time a year ago.

Manufacturing remained at the same level with durable and nondurable goods staying constant.

The claims activity has started to decrease. Experts in the oil industry claim that it has bottomed out. There has been a gradual trend in increased drilling activity.

Lafayette's unemployment rate is expected to edge downward during the next two to three months as the usual fall upturn begins. Seasonal hiring in the retail trade and service areas will be responsible for this.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	61.1	61.0	62.7	+ 0.1	- 1.6
MANUFACTURING	9.7	9.8	10.7	- 0.1	- 1.0
Durable Goods	0.9	0.9	1.1	0	- 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.7	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	8.8	8.9	9.6	- 0.1	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.9	8.0	8.7	- 0.1	- 0.8
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	51.4	51.2	52.0	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Mining	2.4	2.3	2.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	4.4	4.5	5.9	- 0.1	- 1.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.7	4.9	4.7	- 0.2	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	15.2	15.0	14.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	3.5	3.4	3.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	11.7	11.6	11.5	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.5	2.5	2.4	0	- 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.4	3.4	0	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.1	3.1	2.9	0	+ 0.2
Services	11.1	11.1	10.7	0	+ 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.3	10.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.1

LAKE CHARLES
EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonfarm payroll employment inched upward from August due chiefly to seasonal gains in some nonmanufacturing industry subgroups. Total wage and salary employment, in September, is estimated at 1,600 below the year-ago level. In this instance manufacturing garnered most of the loss.

Nonmanufacturing employment climbed 200 over mid-August to the current estimate of 51,400. Gains in mining, trade and government totalling 500 were reduced to 200 by losses in construction, and transportation & public utilities totalling 300. Over-the-year nonfactory losses totalled 600 with the largest loss occurring in construction.

The manufacturing job total dipped 100 below last month and this was centered in nondurable goods. The current estimate falls 1,000 below the September 1982 total.

Employment may inch upward and unemployment may dip slightly during the next 30 days.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.9	51.3	52.1	- 0.4	- 1.2
MANUFACTURING	7.3	7.1	7.3	+ 0.2	0
Durable Goods	2.7	2.5	2.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	0.3	0.2	0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	2.4	2.3	2.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	4.6	4.6	4.9	0	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.9	2.9	3.2	0	- 0.3
NONMANUFACTURING	43.6	44.2	44.8	- 0.6	- 1.2
Mining	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Construction	3.7	3.8	3.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.7	0	- 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.7	13.6	13.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.2	3.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	9.6	9.4	9.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.5	2.4	2.5	+ 0.1	0
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.9	4.0	3.9	- 0.1	0
Services	9.9	10.0	10.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.7	0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.1	4.2	4.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	9.3	9.7	10.4	- 0.4	- 1.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment declined by an estimated 400, to 50,900 during mid-September.

Manufacturing experienced a gain of 200, and was estimated at 7,300. Gains were in durable goods.

Nonmanufacturing declined by 600 to an estimated 43,600. The only segment showing an increase was wholesale and retail trade with a minimal gain of 100. Government showed the greatest loss, 400, as programs for summer youths came to a close. Construction, services, and finance, insurance and real estate each had minimal losses of an estimated 100 workers. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next 30 days employment is expected to rise slightly while unemployment remains high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	502.6	501.7	512.6	+ 0.9	-10.0
MANUFACTURING	43.5	43.8	46.6	- 0.3	- 3.1
Durable Goods	25.5	25.9	27.8	- 0.4	- 2.3
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	3.6	3.6	3.7	0	- 0.1
Machinery	3.2	3.3	3.5	- 0.1	- 0.3
Transportation Equipment	14.2	14.5	14.8	- 0.3	- 0.6
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	9.5	9.8	11.0	- 0.3	- 1.5
Other Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	2.8	0	- 1.3
Nondurable Goods	18.0	17.9	18.8	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	7.5	7.4	7.9	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	459.1	457.9	466.0	+ 1.2	- 6.9
Mining	20.5	20.6	20.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
Construction	31.4	31.0	31.7	+ 0.4	- 0.3
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	47.5	46.4	50.9	+ 1.1	- 3.4
Railroad Transportation	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	16.7	17.2	19.0	- 0.5	- 2.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	127.8	127.4	129.6	+ 0.4	- 1.8
Wholesale Trade	33.6	33.7	36.5	- 0.1	- 2.9
Retail Trade	94.2	93.7	93.1	+ 0.5	+ 1.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.1	31.1	31.5	0	- 0.4
Services	123.9	122.8	123.0	+ 1.1	+ 0.9
Government	76.9	78.6	78.5	- 1.7	- 1.6
Federal	14.7	14.8	14.9	- 0.1	- 0.2
State	19.0	18.6	20.5	+ 0.4	- 1.5
Local	43.2	45.2	43.1	- 2.0	+ 0.1

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$366.68	$340.96	$346.32	39.9	37.8	37.0	$9.19	$9.02	$9.36
Durable Goods	385.69	358.59	369.51	40.9	38.6	37.4	9.43	9.29	9.88
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	380.80	354.45	359.16	42.5	42.5	40.4	8.96	8.34	8.89
Fabricated Metal Products	482.42	454.10	388.39	43.5	42.4	36.4	11.09	10.71	10.67
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	354.35	323.56	357.34	38.6	35.4	38.3	9.18	9.14	9.33
Nondurable Goods	340.07	314.03	307.22	38.6	36.6	36.4	8.81	8.58	8.44
Food & Kindred Products	272.88	261.34	255.07	37.9	35.8	37.4	7.20	7.30	6.82
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	130.98	127.87	120.25	29.5	30.3	27.9	4.44	4.22	4.31
Paper & Allied Products	372.27	341.14	319.61	43.9	41.3	38.6	8.48	8.26	8.28
Printing & Publishing	343.44	298.34	308.09	42.4	38.2	39.6	8.10	7.81	7.78
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	574.00	566.71	565.28	40.0	39.3	35.8	14.35	14.42	15.79

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 29,100 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in September increased to 502,600, up 900 from August. Nonmanufacturing benefitted from the settlement of a labor dispute in communication along with seasonal upturns in other industries. Manufacturing was hurt by layoffs by ship and boatbuilding and repairing. Since September of 1982, nonagricultural wage and salary employment has lost 10,000 workers.

In September, manufacturing employment totaled 43,500, 300 less than last month. Small scattered layoffs in machinery were offset by seasonal increases in food and kindred products. The biggest losses were in ship and boatbuilding and repairing where area shipyards reported the cutback of 300 workers. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is down 2,300.

Nonmanufacturing changes were highlighted by the settlement of a labor dispute in communication. Less favorably, water transportation moved down to the lowest level in several years. Services added a total of 1,100 workers, with gains in some industries offsetting decreases in others. Private educational services pulled back up to a normal level as the fall school term began. Amusement services reflected the openings of the autumn sports and cultural seasons. Of concern were decreases exhibited by the hotel-motel industry, business services, private health services, and miscellaneous services. Retail trade showed a gain largely in employment by eating and drinking places and apparel stores. Wholesale trade tapered off slighlty. Construction displayed a significant increase, partly indicating preparations for the 1984 World's Fair. Government exhibited normal seasonal changes. In local government, layoffs of summer workers were partly offset by callbacks as the fall term began in the public schools. State governmnet pushed up seasonally in institutions of higher learning. Mining showed a small decrease. Finance insurance, and real estate revealed no significant change. Over the year, nonmanufacturing employment is down by 6,900.

Average weekly earnings for area production workers totaled $366.68 in September, up $25.72 from last month. Average hourly earnings increased by $0.17 and work schedules were an average 2 hours and 10 minutes longer. Average weekly earnings increased $20.36 from this same time last year.

Estimated unemployment in September decreased to 54,600, down 2,800 from August. Normal early autumn changes scattered throughout the economy in both employment and unemployment accounted for much of the downturn. Joblessness presently comprises 10.5 percent (not seasonally adjusted) of the labor force compared to 11.0 percent (revised) in August and 10.2 percent in September of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 14,253. Approximately 43.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; about 30.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months will hopefully show some overall increase. Public and private educational services will probably add workers as the fall school term moves further along. Preparations for the 1984 World's Fair will benefit many industries. Retail trade will begin to feel the effects of shopping for the holiday season. Unemployment is likely to show some decrease as employment registers an increase.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE					
AND SALARIED WORKERS	149.5	147.0	152.1	+ 2.5	- 2.6
MANUFACTURING	24.3	24.3	25.3	0	- 1.0
Durable Goods	18.3	18.3	19.2	0	- 0.9
Lumber and Wood Products	1.6	1.7	1.4	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Metals and Machinery	10.8	10.7	13.6	+ 0.1	- 2.8
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.7	3.7	4.1	0	- 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	7.1	7.0	9.5	+ 0.1	- 2.4
Other Durable Goods.	5.9	5.9	4.2	0	+ 1.7
Nondurable Goods	6.0	6.0	6.1	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.7	1.7	1.9	0	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	125.2	122.7	126.8	+ 2.5	- 1.6
Mining	7.0	7.1	7.8	- 0.1	- 0.8
Construction	8.4	8.3	8.4	+ 0.1	0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	8.8	8.7	9.4	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.6	34.5	35.6	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Wholesale Trade	8.3	8.3	9.6	0	- 1.3
Retail Trade	26.3	26.2	26.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.0	7.9	7.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Services	31.9	32.0	32.7	- 0.1	- 0.8
Government	26.5	24.2	25.0	+ 2.3	+ 1.5

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$365.96	$371.94	$353.51	38.2	39.4	39.9	$9.58	$9.44	$8.86
Lumber and Wood Products	220.89	223.67	226.55	39.8	40.3	39.4	5.55	5.55	5.75
Metals and Machinery	373.74	370.94	417.49	39.3	39.8	41.5	9.51	9.32	10.06
Food and Kindred Products	199.76	200.53	215.77	33.8	33.2	38.6	5.91	6.04	5.59
Printing and Publishing	210.82	240.04	243.87	29.2	30.5	34.3	7.22	7.87	7.11
Petroleum and Coal Products	523.27	517.33	506.57	45.7	45.3	47.7	11.45	11.42	10.62

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 18,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment for the area gained 2,500 from the revised August estimate, but remains 2,600 below the September, 1982 total. The manufacturing total is unchanged from last month and is 1,000 less than one year ago. Nonmanufacturing employment shows an increase in government as the new school year begins.

Manufacturing employment at 24,300 remains the same as the revised August estimate. A gain of 100 in metals and machinery was offset by an equal loss in lumber and wood products employment.

Nonmanufacturing total employment increased from the revised August estimate of 122,700 to 125,200. This employment gain of 2,500 resulted primarily from school employees returning for the 1983-84 school year. In addition to government, an increase of 100 occurred in construction, transportation and public utilities, trade and finance, insurance and real estate. Employment in both mining and services dropped 100 during the past month.

Average weekly earnings of 18,800 production workers were $365.96, down from a revised August figure of $371.94. Average weekly hours dropped from 39.4 last month to 38.2. Average hourly earnings increased from $9.44 last month to $9.58.

This area has a civilian labor force of 169,800, including 151,000 employed and 18,800 unemployed. The unemployed make up 11.0 percent of the total labor force.

No significant changes are expected in this area during the next few months. The end to the racing season will cause a decline in services employment. Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment will likely remain near the present level. The unemployment total is expected to hold near the present estimate.